

Date: April 24, 2003

Contact: Mary Clark, 406-896-5205

BILLINGS – Several pre-bid conferences have been scheduled to explain a federal solicitation for fuels reduction services throughout the western states. All contracts will be awarded to small businesses. The conferences are offered at no cost.

The Bureau of Land Management plans to issue multiple contracts for a wide range of work to reduce the risk of wildland fires. The Forest Service, National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Bureau of Indian Affairs will also have authority to place orders on these contracts. The contracts may include slashing; girdling; lop and scatter; selective slashing; pruning; fuel modification zone construction; hand piling and cover; prescribed burning and mop-up; fire line construction and maintenance; fuels pullback; snag felling; roadblock removal/restoration; and prescribed fire plan preparation furnishing labor, transportation, operating supplies and incidentals.

Conferences are scheduled at Big Sky Economic Development, 222 North 32<sup>nd</sup>
Street in Billings on May 6; Senior Citizens Community Center, end of Silcox Drive in
Thompson Falls on May 12; Holiday Inn, 400 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue South in Great Falls on May
12; Doubletree Hotel, 100 Madison in Missoula on May 13; City Hall – Ponderosa
Room, 952 E. Spruce Street in Libby on May 13; Best Western, 2900 Harrison Avenue in
Butte on May 14; West Coast Kalispell Center, 20 North Main in Kalispell on May 14;
Bureau of Land Management, 1005 Selway Drive in Dillon on May 15; and Lake County
Court House, 106 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue E in Polson on May 15. All conferences will run from 6
p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

To access the solicitation, go to <a href="http://ideasec.nbc.gov">http://ideasec.nbc.gov</a> and query for Request for Proposal No. NAR030061. Interested parties should plan to attend one of the pre-bid conferences and bring a copy of the solicitation.

Please contact Mary Clark, BLM Procurement Analyst, at 406-896-5205 with any questions.

###